GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5036
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008
BRANCHES OF PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of Publication Department in the country at present, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of new branches set up during each of the last three years, till date, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) the steps taken to improve the functioning of all the branches in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

a) Publications Division has a total of 19 Sales Emporiums and Yojana offices located in various parts of the country. It also has one office each of Employment News, Journals Unit and Kurukshetra (Hindi and English) at Delhi and one feeder store office at Faridabad, Haryana. The State-wise and Union Territory-wise position is at Annexure.

b) No new office has been set up during the last three years.

c) A number of initiatives have been taken to improve the functioning of the Division at its Headquarters and its offices. During the Annual Plan 2007-08, two Sales Emporium i.e., one each at Delhi and Hyderabad and seven Yojana offices have been modernized and computerized. All other remaining offices will be modernized and computerized during the 11th Plan Period. Besides, past issues of Yojana (English, Hindi and Urdu) and Kurukshetra (Hindi and English) have been digitized.

Steps have been taken to improve the functioning of the Division in the areas of production, editorial and marketing of its publications. A book committee has been constituted to analyse and select the best manuscripts. The layout, design and paper quality of the publications has been improved substantially. Home Library Scheme has been launched in February, 2008 to improve the marketing mechanism.

Employment News has launched an interactive career oriented website under the domain www.employmentnews.gov.in. The website has a page hit of more that 3 lakh per day. The website offers online career counseling, advance information about job vacancies in the Govt. sector and availability of information direct to the e-mail of the readers.